



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 517**

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**Chairperson:** Mike Friend  
**Committee:** Urban Affairs  
**Date of Hearing:** January 30, 2007

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 517 creates the procedures for two or more adjacent cities of the first class to merge or, in the alternative, consolidate city offices, other than the mayor or city council, or provide for the joint performance of common functions or services.

The consolidation process can be initiated by passage of a joint resolution by the city councils of each adjacent city of the first class wishing to merge or by petition of the registered voters in each city, equal to ten percent of the total vote cast for Governor in the last election in that city.

Once initiated by joint resolution or petition, the city councils are required to make a good faith effort to draft a consolidation agreement and hold a public hearing on the agreement. If the consolidation agreement is approved by a majority vote of the city council of each city, the issue shall be placed on the ballot at a primary, general or special election for approval by a majority of voters of each city.

Procedures also outline that the withdrawal of a city from an agreement for the joint performance of common functions or services or the consolidation of city offices must be placed on the ballot for submission to the voters.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Philip Erdman**